IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-40 (Canceled).

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): Illumination arrangement according to claim 46, wherein said light integrating device is or comprises a plain light pipe in particular a solid integration rod-having a light incidence aperture and a side wall, wherein said side wall of said light integrated device is provided with a reflecting means as said light coupling and/or guiding improving arrangement or as a part thereof at its outer periphery at least in a neighborhood of said light incidence aperture, and wherein said reflecting means is adapted and/or arrangement so as to reflect light escaping from said light integrating device through the side wall thereof back into said light integrating device.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): Illumination arrangement according to claim 46, wherein said light integrating device is or comprises a plain light pipe - in particular a solid integration rod-having a light incidence aperture, wherein said light incidence aperture of said light integrating device is positioned in a neighborhood of a light exit aperture of said light source device and/or of said light mixing devices and wherein between said light incidence aperture of said light integrating device and said light exit aperture of said light source device and/or of said light mixing devices refraction index matching means is or are provided, in particular filling a gap or a gap structure between said light incidence aperture of said light integrating device and said light exit aperture of said light source device and/or light mixing devices.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): Illumination arrangement according to claim 42, wherein said refraction index matching means is a liquid, gel, and/or a glue.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): Illumination arrangement according to claim 42, wherein said refraction index matching means has a refraction index which essentially coincides with the refraction index of the material of said light integration device or with the refraction index of the material of the light source devices periphery changes between these refraction indices.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): Illumination arrangement according to claim 46, wherein said light integration device is or comprises a hollow light pipe having a light incidence aperture,

wherein said light incidence aperture of said light integrating device is positioned in a neighborhood of a light exit aperture of said light source device and/or of said light mixing devices and

wherein a second or end section in the neighborhood of said light incidence aperture and/or being terminated by said light incidence aperture is-in particular completely-filled with a plain light pipe section, in particular for matching the respective refraction indices.

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): An illumination arrangement, comprising:

a solid state light source;

a light collecting, integrating and re-directing device configured to receive at least a part of emitted light from said solid state light source and to redirect said received light; and

a light coupling mechanism configured to improve coupling efficiency of said emitted light from said solid state light source to said light collecting, integrating and redirecting device,

wherein the light coupling mechanism includes a gap structure ~~refraction index matching means~~ directly coupling the light collecting, integrating and re-directing device to the solid state light source, and the gap width of the gap structure is small in particular compared to the cross-sections of the solid state light source and the light collecting, integrating and re-directing device.

Claim 47 (Currently Amended): An illumination arrangement, comprising:

a solid state light source;

a light collecting, integrating and redirecting device configured to receive at least a part of emitted light from said solid state light source and to redirect said received light; and

a light coupling means for improving coupling efficiency of said emitted light from said solid state light source to said light collecting, integrating and redirecting device,

wherein the light coupling means includes a gap structure ~~refraction index matching means~~ directly coupling the light collecting, integrating and re-directing device to the solid state light source, and the gap width of the gap structure is small in particular compared to the cross-sections of the solid state light source and the light collecting, integrating and re-directing device.